

CONSULAR SECTION IMMIGRANT VISA UNIT AMERICAN EMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR MALAYSIA

LIST OF PANEL PHYSICIANS

## PENINSULAR MALAYSIA

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# IMPORTANT NOTICE TO IMMIGRANT VISA APPLICANTS CONCERNING VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

Recent changes to United States Immigration Law now require immigrant visa applicants to obtain certain vaccinations (listed below) prior to the issuance of an immigrant visa.

Instructions and Procedural Guidance:

Panel physicians who conduct medical examinations on behalf of immigrant visa applicants are now required to either verify that immigrant visa applicants have met the new vaccination requirements, or to state that it is medically inappropriate for the visa applicant to receive one or more of the listed vaccinations. Required vaccinations include:

Mumps, Measles, Rubella, Polio, Tetanus and Diphtheria Toxoids, Pertussis, Influenzae B (HIB), Hepatitis B, Varicella, Pneumococcal, and Influenza.

In order to assist the panel physician, and to avoid delays in the processing of an immigrant visa, all immigrant visa applicants should have their vaccination records available for the panel physician's review at the time of the immigrant medical examination. Visa applicants should consult with their regular health care provider to obtain a copy of their immunization record, if one is available. If you do not have a vaccination record, the panel physician will work with you to determine which vaccinations you may need to meet the requirement. Certain waivers of the vaccination requirement are available upon the recommendation of the panel physician.

Only a physician can determine which of the listed vaccinations are medically appropriate for you, given your age, medical history and current medical condition.

A blood test for antibody to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is required as part of your medical examination. HIV is the virus that is the cause of the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). AIDS is the name given to a group of illnesses which may occur in persons infected with HIV. Infection with HIV causes a defect in a person's natural immunity against disease. This defect leaves infected people vulnerable to serious illnesses that would not usually be a threat to anyone whose immune system was intact. This test is not to diagnose AIDS, but to detect antibodies to the virus. If the result is positive, it does not necessarily mean that you have AIDS or will get it.

The results of your test will be provided to a consular officer. Also, it may be necessary to report results to the health authorities in this country.

A positive test result will mean that you will not be eligible to receive a visa. A positive test result could also have other local consequences on your day-to-day activities in this country.